

Application Serial No.: 10/772,953
Attorney Docket No.: 10086-03CIP

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0007] as follows:

[0007] Another aspect of the present invention is a protective covering for use during construction including a protective backing layer formed from a first material, and a plurality of protective portions attached to and covering portions of the protective backing layer and at least one flap portion. The plurality of protective portions being arranged so that portions of the front surface protective backing layer are exposed between each of the protective portions, the protective portions being formed from a second material that is different than the first material. The at least one flap portion not being covered by the plurality of protective portions.

Please amend paragraph [0009] as follows:

[0009] Still another aspect of the present invention is a method of protecting surfaces during construction, moving, or other activities, including the following steps: providing a protective covering including a backing layer and a plurality of hard protective portions attached to the backing layer; fitting the protective covering to the surfaces; and transporting objects across the protective covering.

Please add paragraph [0010.1] after paragraph [0010] as follows:

[0010.1] In yet another embodiment of the present invention is a protective covering for use during construction including a protective backing layer, a plurality of protective strips attached to and covering portions of the protective backing layer and at least one flap portion that is not covered by said plurality of protective strips.

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Please amend paragraph [0012] of the "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" section as follows:

[0012] For the purpose of illustrating the invention, the drawings show a form of the invention that is presently preferred. However, it should be understood that the present invention is not limited to the precise arrangements and instrumentalities shown in the drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a front isometric view of one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a section view taken along line 2-2 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a front isometric view of one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a section view taken along line 4-4 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a front isometric view of one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a flowchart of the steps of a method of protecting surfaces during construction or moving activities according to one embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 7 is a flowchart of the steps of a method of manufacturing one embodiment of the present invention:-

FIG. 8 is a top view of one embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 9 is a top view of another embodiment of the present invention.

Please add paragraphs [0012.1], [0012.2], [0012.3], and [0012.4] at the beginning of the "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" section and before paragraph [0013] as follows:

[0012.1] Referring to FIG. 8, one embodiment of a protective covering 100 is illustrated. Examples of items that may be protected by protective covering 100, includes but are not limited to walls, floors, furniture, etc. Protective covering 100 includes protective backing layer 102, a plurality of protective strips 120 attached to and covering portions of the protective backing

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layer, and at least one flap portion 130. Flap portion 130 is not covered by plurality of protective strips 120.

[0012.2] Protective backing layer 102 includes a front side 104, opposing top and bottom edges 108 and 110, respectively, opposing left and right side edges 112 and 114, respectively. Plurality of protective strips 120 each have a first end 122 and a second end 124. In one example, plurality of protective strips 120 do not run along the entire width of protective backing layer 102 from left side edge 112 to right side edge 114. Strips 120 are securely affixed to front side 104. Covering 100 includes a flap portion 130, which is an area on front side 104 without the plurality of strips 120. Flap portion 130 is defined on backing layer 102 between an edge, such as left side edge 112, and to the ends of strips 120, such as first ends 122, with a flap portion width 132, running along from top edge 108 to bottom edge 110. Flap portion 130 may optionally receive an adhesive for receiving another covering in a parallel fashion to accommodate a wider or bigger protection area. This is discussed in greater detail below.

[0012.3] Referring to FIG. 9, another embodiment of the present invention is a protective covering 200 is illustrated. Protective covering 200 includes a protective backing layer 202, a plurality of protective strips 220 attached to and covering portions of the protective backing layer, a first flap portion 230 and a second flap portion 232. Flap portions 230 and 232 are not covered by plurality of protective strips

[0012.4] Protective backing layer 202 includes a front side 204, opposing top and bottom edges 208 and 210, respectively, and opposing left and right side edges 212 and 214, respectively. Plurality of protective strips 220 each have a first end 222 and a second end 224. Strips 220 are securely affixed to and covering front side 204. First flap portion 230 is along backing layer 202 between left side edge 212 and the first ends 222 of strips 220 running from top edge 208 to bottom edge 210, with a first flap portion width 234. Likewise, flap portion 232 is along backing layer 202 between right side edge 214 and the second ends 224 of strips 220 running from top edge 208 to bottom edge 210, with a second flap portion width 236. Flap portions 230 and 232 may optionally receive an adhesive for receiving other protective coverings on either edge of covering 200.

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Please amend paragraph [0013] as follows:

[0013] Referring now to the drawings, as illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, one embodiment of the present invention is a protective covering 10 for protecting surrounding items, i.e., walls, floors, furniture, etc., during construction activities or when moving such items. Covering 10 includes a protective backing layer 12 having a front side 14, a back side 16, opposing top and bottom edges 17 and 18, respectively, opposing left and right side edges 19 and 20, respectively, and a plurality of protective strips 22 each having a first end 24 and a second end 26. Strips 22 are securely affixed to and covering front side 14.

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